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ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health

FOR THE

YEAR 1941.

R. A. Bryan, Printer, Llanfyllin.

CARTREF,
LLANFAIR C.,
WELSHPOOL.

24th April, 1943.

To the Chairman and Members of the Llanfyllin Rural District Council.

GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to present to you my Report dealing with Vital Statistics and Sanitary Circumstances of the area for the year 1941.

Existing conditions have again contributed to this delayed submission of the Report.

During the year active immunization of children was undertaken by the County Medical Officer of Health when a high percentage of the children resident in the area received their protective doses against Diphtheria.

It is to be hoped that those parents and guardians who have not already taken advantage of the facilities available will see to it that their children receive their anti-diphtheritic injections as soon as possible in order to reduce to a minimum the ravages of this dread disease.

For obvious reasons, problems associated with evacuation became less acute during the year and large numbers of children have returned to their homes greatly benefited, without doubt, by their stay in the country.

Problems associated with the state of the present emergency still persist and continue to add greatly to the work of your officials.

I must again thank the Clerk and his staff for their continued courteous help and advice on all relevant occasions, and my thanks are also due to the Sanitary Inspector and his staff for their continued industry and application in carrying out their increasing duties.

I have the honour to remain, Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

W. MILTON JONES,
M.B., Ch.B.

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SECTION "A."

Statistics and Social Conditions of the Area.

Area of District—163,477 Acres.

Registrar General's estimate of Population for mid-year 1941 —11,460.

Population (1931 Census)—11,487.

Number of Inhabited Houses—2,871.

Rateable Value—£53,656.

Sum represented by a penny rate—£225 13s. 2d.

Extracts from Vital Statistics for the Year.

		Male.	*Female.*	*Total.*
Live Births	Legitimate	75	80	155
	Illegitimate	7	2	9

Birth Rate per thousand of the estimated population—14·3.

		Male.	*Female.*	*Total.*
Still Births	Legitimate	5	3	8
	Illegitimate	1	0	1

Still Birth Rate per thousand Total Births ... ... 50·5

Still Birth Rate per thousand of the estimated population... ·78

Deaths. Males—94; Females—79; Total—173.

Death Rate per thousand of the estimated population—15·09

Number of Women dying in or in consequence of Child Birth—
From Sepsis—NIL. From other causes—1.

Number of Deaths of Infants under 1 year—

	Male.	*Female.*	*Total.*
Legitimate	3	6	9
Illegitimate	1	1	2

Death Rate of Infants under 1 year of age:—

All Infants per thousand Live Births—61·9.

Legitimate Infants per thousand Live Births—50·6.

Illegitimate Infants per thousand Live Births—11·3.

Deaths from Cancer—

Male—7; Female—5; Total—12.

Average age at death of those dying from Cancer—59·3.

Deaths from Measles (all ages)—NIL.

Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages)—NIL.

Deaths from Diarrhœa (under 2 years of age)—1.

Death Rate for England and Wales—12·9.

Birth Rate for England and Wales—14·2.

Maternal Mortality Rate for England and Wales per thousand Total Births—2·23.

Infant Mortality Rate for England and Wales per thousand Live Births—59.

Still Birth Rate for England and Wales per thousand of estimated Civilian population—·51.

Total Deaths of Residents of the area who died in Institutions, Hospitals, etc.—33.

Percentage (of Total Deaths) occurring in Hospitals, Institutions, etc.—19·6.

Average age at death (excluding deaths under 1 year of age) of all Residents of the area and whose deaths were allotted to the area—62·5.

Average age at death (excluding deaths under 1 year of age) of those who died in the area and whose deaths were allotted to the area—68·5.

Average age at death of those who died from all forms of Tuberculosis—35.

Maternal Mortality per thousand (Live and Still Births)—5·3.

Maternal Mortality.

One death was notified as being due to non-sepsis causes. This death took place in Hospital.

Infantile Mortality.

Twelve deaths of Infants under 1 year of age were reported. Of these one died in Hospital.

Ages at death varied from 3 months to 10 hours. Seven of the deaths took place during the first week of life and were due to congenital causes—congenital debility, prematurity, and accidents at birth.

The following Table summarizes the Vital Statistics of the District for the Years 1928—1941.

Year.	Per 1,000 Population.				Per 1,000 Births (Live *and* Still).	
	Birth Rate.	Death Rate.	Death Rate from Tuberculosis.	Death Rate from Cancer.	Maternal Mortality Rate.	Rate of Deaths under 1 year.
1928	15·6	14·0	·99	1·48	5·3	58
1929	18·0	16·0	1·4	1·5	9·03	84
1930	18 8	11·5	·7	1·9	Nil	63
1931	18·0	13·6	0·68	1·63	9·5	81
1932	20·1	14·4	0·43	1·88	8·5	51
1933	14·1	14·6	0·43	2·25	Nil	55
1934	15·7	13·8	0·53	2·28	5·37	100
1935	16·2	12·9	0·62	1·4	Nil	41·6
1936	14·1	13·1	0·54	1·8	5·7	53·8
1937	13·7	14·6	0·63	2·1	6·17	46·6
1938	15·05	12·65	·64	1·38	11·9	49·1
1939	16·4	14·65	·27	1·9	Nil	89·4
1940	11·8	16·7	·46	2·8	Nil	85·1
1941	**14·3**	**15·09**	**·42**	**1·04**	**5·3**	**61·9**

Causes of, and ages at, Death during Year 1941.

Causes of Death.	All Ages		Under 1 year	1 and under 2	2 and under 5	5 and under 15	15 and under 25	25 and under 45	45 and under 65	65 and upwards
	M.	F.								
Cerebro-spinal Fever ..	1						1			
Tuberculosis of the Respiratory system	4							4		
Other forms of Tuberculosis	1							1		
Influenza	4		1					1		2
Acute Infantile Encephalitis	1								1	
Cancer of Stomach and Duodenum	3								2	1
Cancer of Breast		1							1	
Cancer of all other sites ...	4	4						1	3	4
Diabetes		2								2
Intra-Cranial Vascular Lesions...	19	13							12	20
Heart Disease	19	18			1				7	29
Other Diseases of the Circulatory System ...		1								1
Bronchitis	3	6						1	2	6
Pneumonia	5								1	4
Other Respiratory Diseases	1									1
Diarrhœa (under 2 years)...		1	1							
Other Digestive diseases ...	1	2						1		2
Nephritis	7	4							3	8
Maternal Diseases ...		1					1			
Premature Birth	1	2	3							
Congenital Malformations, Birth Injuries, Infantile Diseases	2	3	5							
Suicide		1							1	
Road Traffic Accident ...	2	1				1		1		1
Other Violent Causes ...	2	4	1			1	1		1	2
All other causes	14	15						2	1	26
TOTALS	94	79	11		1	2	3	12	35	109

There were 79 Deaths from 70 years and upwards; and of these 37 were over 80 years, and of these, 3 were over 90 years.

SECTION "B."

General Provision of Health Services for the Area.

No changes took place during the year 1941 and the position is as reported in the annual report for 1940.

The Eithnog Hostel was used throughout the year as a hostel for the reception of and the treatment of sick evacuee children.

SECTION "C."

Sanitary Circumstances of the Area.

Water.

No material change has taken place in the conditions as described in my report for the year 1938.

As previously reported, additional storage is still urgently needed in Llanfair, and it is understood that a new reservoir will shortly be constructed.

Four samples of water were taken during the year. One sample was taken from the public supply at Voel, and the water was found to be satisfactory. The other three samples were taken in connection with emergency supplies.

Drainage and Sewerage.

Comments upon these subjects made in previous reports still apply.

Closet Accommodation.

No change.

Public Cleansing.

In fifteen out of the nineteen parishes in the district, a weekly collection of night soil and house refuse is undertaken. All refuse is disposed of at controlled tips in the parishes of Carreghofa, Llanfair Caereinion and Llanrhaiadr.

516 bins and 419 pails are dealt with each week.

Of the remaining four parishes, Llanwddyn is scavenged by Liverpool Corporation, and there appears to be no need to extend the service to the three remaining parishes.

Sanitary Inspections.

The following Table shows the results of Inspections made by the Sanitary Inspectors during the year:—

Number of Informal Notices served	72
Number of Informal Notices complied with	37
Number of Statutory Notices served	3
Number of Statutory Notices complied with... ...	1
Number of Houses found to be totally unfit for human habitation	2
Number of Food Condemnation Certificates issued...	37

Quantity of Food condemned:—

(a) Beef ...	3,000 lbs.	(b) Mutton ...	731 lbs.
(c) Lamb ...	17 lbs.	(d) Pork ...	278 lbs.

Milk and Dairies Order.

There are now 332 registered milk producers in the area.

During the year 54 applications for registration were made, of which 30 were granted, after improvements to the dairy premises had been carried out in each case.

The following Table shows the defects remedied during the year, in registered premises, and in premises which were the subject of an application for registration:--

Defective Ceilings	18
Defective Floors	51
Insufficient Light and Ventilation	50
Want of Lime Washing	50
Defective Drainage	45
Want of Cooler	48
Want of Milk Room	46
Other Defects	75

Shops and Offices.

No action taken during the year.

Camping Sites.

There are no licensed Camping Sites in the district.

Smoke Abatement.

No action nescessary.

Swimming Baths and Pools.

There are no Swimming Baths or Pools in the disrrict.

Eradication of Bugs.

This pest is seldom found in this district, and only one case occurred during the year under review. This was effectively dealt with.

Schools.

There were no closures of Schools owing to infectious diseases during the year.

Measles was generally epidemic for a period, but no ill-results appear to have persisted.

The principle of mid-day meals is now established in some schools and it is hoped that this practice will extend to all schools in the area.

Immunization of school children and others against Diphtheria was very extensively carried out during the year by the County Medical Officer of Health and his staff.

Housing.

During the year under review no houses were improved under the Housing (Rural Workers) Act.

No new houses were erected during the year.

At the end of the year there were 18 recorded cases of overcrowding in the district. There is no doubt however, that if another survey was carried out, it would reveal many additional cases.

SECTION "F."

Prevalence of, and control over, Infectious Diseases.

During the year 97 cases of Infectious Diseases were notified and of these 8 were cases of Tuberculosis.

There were 51 cases of Measles—now a notifiable disease.

Twenty-six cases of Pneumonia were notified and of these five died.

Age Incidence of Infectious Cases Notified.

Disease.	Under 1 year	1—2	2—3	3—4	4—5	5—10	10—15	15—20	20—35	35—45	45—65	65+	Total.
Scarlet Fever	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	2
Whooping Cough	—	—	1	1	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	4
Diphtheria	—	—	—	—	—	3	1	—	—	—	—	—	4
Erysipelas	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1
Measles ...	—	2	5	7	5	15	13	1	2	1	—	—	51
Pneumonia	1	—	2	—	2	3	—	—	2	4	7	5	26
Puerperal Pyrexia	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1
Totals ...	2	2	8	8	8	23	14	1	4	6	8	5	89

In addition to the above a case—a male of 5½ years—of Acute Poliomyelitis was notified, as was also a case—a male of 47 years—of Encephalitic Lethargica.

One case of Cerebro Spinal Fever in a male aged 3½ years was also notified.

Numbers of cases of Infectious diseases notified during the year shows a marked reduction upon the preceding year when 177 cases were notified.

The widespread epidemic of Measles subsided during the early months of the year under review.

Notifications of Infectious Diseases during the year appears to have been satisfactory.

The usual disinfection by your Sanitary Inspectors was carried out when and where necessary.

No Vaccinations or re-vaccinations under the Public Health (Small-pox) Regulations were carried out during the year.

Immunization of children against Diphtheria was very extensively carried out by the County Medical Officer of Health and by the end of the year under review the greater percentage of children had received their pretective injection.

Tuberculosis.

No action has been taken during the year under the Public Health (Prevention of Tuberculosis) Regulations, 1925, or under Section 2 of the Public Health Act of 1925.

During the year 1941 eight new cases of Tuberculosis were notified—the number being the same as that for the year 1940.

Of these 3 were cases of Pulmonary Tuberculosis and 5 were cases of Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis.

Of the eight cases notified three were females and of these two were cases of Pulmonary Tuberculosis and the third was Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis.

In the males—five cases being notified—four were of the Non-Pulmonary type and the fifth was of the Pulmonary type.

Three of the cases notified occurred amongst children evacuated into the area on the outbreak of hostilities.

Five deaths from Tuberculosis were notified during the year, all were males, four being cases of Pulmonary Tuberculosis while the fifth case died of Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis.

The average age at death of those dying from all forms of Tuberculosis was 35 years.

Notification of cases of Tuberculosis appears to be good.

Infected premises are duly disinfected by your Sanitary Inspectors when necessary and the requisite destruction of infected material carried out.

Classification of New Cases of, and Deaths from Tuberculosis according to age, sex, etc.:—

Age Periods.	NEW CASES Notified. Pulmonary.		NEW CASES Notified. Non-Pulmonary.		DEATHS. Pulmonary.		DEATHS. Non-Pulmonary.	
Years.	*M.*	*F.*	*M.*	*F.*	*M.*	*F.*	*M.*	*F.*
0— 1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1— 5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5—10	—	—	4	—	—	—	—	—
10—15	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
15—20	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
20—25	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	—
25—35	—	—	—	—	2	—	1	—
35—45	1	—	—	—	2	—	—	—
45—65	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
65+	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Totals	1	2	4	1	4	—	1	—

Two of the above deaths took place in Institutions situated outside your area.

The deaths from Tuberculosis are less by one than the number during the year 1940.

Laboratory Work and Facilities.

Much investigation of material is now carried out in Aberystwyth by the staff of the Emergency Public Health Laboratory Services.

Prevention of Blindness.

No action taken.

No change in existing organisations.

Cancer.

This disease caused the deaths of 12 persons during the year—of these, 7 were males and 5 were females.

This figure compares well with that for the year 1940 when 3.1 deaths were reported as being due to Cancer.

The average age at death of those dying during the year from Cancer was 59·3 years, and ages ranged from 40 years to 86 years.